

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1 ¹ A method of managing a network computer (NC) system including an NC server
2 and a plurality of NC clients, the method comprising an NC client of the plurality
3 of NC clients causing those of the plurality of NC clients that are subsequently
4 booted to receive operating system software that is configured differently than that
5 currently in effect by replacing one or more system volumes on the NC server
6 containing the operating system software with one or more different system
7 volumes.

1 2. A method of managing a network computer (NC) system including an NC server
2 and a plurality of NC clients, the method comprising:
3 an NC client of the plurality of NC clients causing a working copy of one or more
4 system volumes on the NC server to be created by copying the one or more
5 system volumes to a storage area separate from the location of the one or
6 more system volumes, the one or more system volumes containing
7 operating system software that is utilized by each of the plurality of NC
8 clients;
9 the NC client causing those of the NC clients of the plurality of NC clients that are
10 subsequently booted to utilize an altered operating system by modifying
11 the working copy and replacing the one or more system volumes with the
12 working copy.

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- 1 3. A method of managing a network computer (NC) system, the method comprising:
2 an NC client booting from a boot image provided by an NC server, the boot image
3 including information identifying the location of one or more system
4 volumes on the NC server, the one or more system volumes containing
5 operating system software;
6 creating a working copy of the one or more system volumes by copying the one or
7 more system volumes to a storage area separate from the location of the
8 one or more system volumes;
9 changing the operating system software supplied by the NC server to subsequently
10 booted NC clients by modifying the working copy and replacing the one or
11 more system volumes with the working copy.

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